

**Engineering Division**  
**ACCIDENT REVIEW BOARD**  
**Tuesday, September 23, 2003**  
**11:00 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

Present

Al Biocca for R.P. Singh (Software Engineering)  
Dan Colomb (Mechanical Engineering)  
Peter Denes (Electronics Engineering)  
Calvin Guinn (Software Engineering)  
Roy Hannaford (Mechanical Engineering)  
Deb Hopkins (Technology Transfer, Industrial & Energy Partnerships)  
Lowell Koht (Design & Fabrication)  
Guy Pulsifer (Design & Fabrication)  
Joseph Rasson for Victor Karpenko (Mechanical Engineering)  
Paris Gordon (Division Safety Coordinator Administrative Support)  
Weyland Wong (Division Safety Coordinator)

Absent

Kem Robinson (Interim Division Director) > on travel  
Bill Edwards (Engineering Sciences) > not able to attend  
Victor Karpenko (Mechanical Engineering) > on travel  
R.P. Singh (Software Engineering) > out of office  
Matt Kotowski (EH&S Liaison to Engineering) > out of office

- Accident Review Board reviewed five accidents/injuries
  - **Case #1** – Employee participated in team building exercise that irritated a 10-year-old wrist injury.
  - Shortly thereafter, work duties changed from scanning to computer work that required more than four hours combined at two different workstations, using two different keyboards and computers on a daily basis for a sustained period of effort.
  - Employee's change in work duties resulted in an injury to right wrist.
    - **Resolutions** –
      1. Awareness and practice taking breaks from repetitive tasks and intensive activities, use computer less to decrease stress on extremities
      2. Requested and received ergo evaluation, found third party observation useful with necessary adjustments and recommendations
      3. Supervisor distributed workload within group to reduce impact to affected employee
  - **Case#2** – Employee attempted to unjam the top drawer of a tool cabinet at chin height.
  - The employee unhinged the open drawer, when it fell causing the drawer to strike their jaw and scrape the right side of their face.
    - **Resolutions** -
      1. Drawer contents were reviewed and redistributed to reduce /mitigate shifting loads and keep drawers from jamming
      2. Get help before attempting a two person task

9/26/2003

- **Case#3** – The employee was in Building 58, in the process of setting up the DARHT cell for testing.
- While maneuvering between a 14” walk space, employee walked diagonally across the framework to continue work when their left foot instep struck the corner of an “H” beam, 8” high x 8” wide, creating blunt trauma to left foot.
  - **Resolutions** –
    1. Put bumpers on beams
    2. Box in beams to avoid stepping over
    3. More space needed in Building 58 to resolve general egress issues
- **Case#4** – Employee lifted the super spacer in place with a crane, went to flip it over by hand, and the super spacer slipped and fell onto his left middle finger, causing a compression fracture.
- The super spacer was estimated to weigh ~ 70# (actual weight was 130#).
  - **Resolutions** –
    1. When lifting/maneuvering heavy items, use lifting device (crane)
    2. Provide rigging (re) training to machine shop staff
    3. Complete Move Smart training
- **Case#5** – Employee was lifting (4) stainless steel plates (weighing ~ 80# each) with a co-worker.
- Employee bent down toward the pallet (5 ¼” from the floor).
- Employee picked up the metal plates to move them individually to the wood crate box next to the pallet (stainless steel plate measures 36” long x 9 7/8” wide x 1” thick).
- Resulted in employee suffering from spasms and pain in lower back and tendons.
  - **Resolutions** –
    1. Supervisor states new expectation for group, when lifting items that exceed 50#, use lifting device (hoist)

#### Closing Discussion

Some affected individuals this time and in the past stated a reoccurring theme. “I’ve done this many times and have never had anything happen.” Most of these accident/injuries were a result of performing an act risk behavior...again. How can we change this is the challenge.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm, Safety Committee Meeting scheduled, November 19, 2003.